35. The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the window portion includes a polymerized blend of two immiscible polymers.

36. The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the window portion includes at least one of polymethylmethacrylate and polycarbonate.

37. The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the window portion includes a polymer matrix having discontinuities formed therein that act to increase the wear rate of the polymer matrix without significantly contributing to light scattering.

38. The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the discontinuities include at least one selected from the group of discontinuities comprising: solid particles, fluids, gases and immiscible polymers.

39. The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the discontinuities include solid matter having a lower resistance to wear than the polymer matrix.

40. The apparatus of claim 39, wherein the solid matter includes at least one type of solid particles selected from the group of particles comprising: silica, titania, alumina, ceria, and plastic.

41. A method of forming a polishing pad, comprising:

providing a window portion having a polymer matrix and a first wear rate during polishing;

forming discontinuities in the matrix that act to decrease the first wear rate to form a second wear rate during polishing that is equal to or greater than a third wear rate associated with a polishing pad during polishing, without significantly contributing to light scattering; and

incorporating the window portion into the polishing pad.